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# Message Text

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73
ORIGIN MMS-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 SCI-06 SS-20 SPC-03 PER-05 ABF-01

NASA-04 RSC-01 /050 R

DRAFTED BY M/MS:MAWHITE:JS
APPROVED BY M/MS:RGMAYS,JR.
EUR/EX - MR. GEISEL (PHONE)
SCI - MR. PARDEE (PHONE)
---------- 095162
R 272139Z NOV 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS STATE 232606

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS:OGEN, NL

SUBJECT: OPRED - NASA PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL POSITION IN
THE NETHERLANDS

1. NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA) WISHES TO ASSIGN A SYSTEMS ENGINEERING SPECIALIST TO THE EUROPEAN SPACE RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER (ESTEC) AT NOORDWIJK TO PROVIDE FOR DETAILED TECHNICAL COORDINATION AND INTERFACE BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANIZATION'S (ESRO) SPACE LAB DEVELOPMENT TEAM AND THE NASA TEAM WHICH WILL INTEGRATE PAYLOADS INTO THE SPACE LAB AND OPERATE IT, USING THE SPACE SHUTTLE.

2. THE SPACE LAB WILL BE THE BASIC RESEARCH AND APPLICATIONS EXPERIMENT CARRIER SYSTEM FOR ATTACHED MODE OPERATIONS WITH NASA'S SPACE SHUTTLE BEGINNING IN 1979. ITS DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTS EUROPE'S FIRST MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF MANNED SPACE FLIGHT SYSTEMS AND AS SUCH IS A STEP OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE IN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. THE LAB WILL CONSTITUTE A PORTION OF A
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$250-300 MILLION CONTRIBUTION BY EUROPE TO COOPERATIVE

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EFFORTS IN SPACE.

3. BECAUSE THE LAB WILL HAVE CRITICAL INTERFACES WITH THE SHUTTLE, THE SYSTEMS ENGINEER POST IS A VITAL MANAGEMENT NASA HOPE THAT THE ENGINEER FILLING THIS POSITION WILL RESIDE AT THE HAGUE, WHERE HE WILL BE NEAR TO THE ESRO SPACE LAB TEAM AT ESTEC AT NOORDWIJK.

4. NASA PLANS TO OFFSET THE NEW POSITION BY THE ELIMINATION OF A CURRENTLY VACANT POSITION IN PARIS IN THE OFFICE OF THE NASA EUROPEAN REPRESENTATIVE BY ABOUT DECEMBER 15, 1973.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF OF MISSION ON NASA'S PROPOSAL INCLUDING ANY IMPACT ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT CAPABILITIES OF THE EMBASSY. KISSINGER

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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
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**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960
**Disposition Event:**
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**Status:** NATIVE
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